

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release:
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EXPECT LANE CLOSURE AND DELAYS ON HWY 17/75 IN TOWNS COUNTY

HIAWASSEE, Ga. – The Georgia Department of Transportation is advising motorists in Towns County of a temporary lane closure and possible delays on State Route (SR) 17/SR75 at the bridge over the Hiawassee River, scheduled for Monday, May 2, 2016, to accommodate work on setting up the beams of the new bridge at this location.

Traffic delays are expected between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. as a result of this flagging operation that limits traffic to only one lane. Drivers are advised to avoid SR 17 during these hours or be prepared for additional travel delays of up to 20 minutes while crews set up bridge beams.

This beam setting operation is part of a project to replace a structurally deficient two lane bridge on SR 75/SR17 over the Hiawassee River, approximately 3.6 miles south of the city of Hiawassee in Towns County. Work on this project began in November 2014. The entire project is scheduled to be completed at the end of June 2016, at a construction cost of \$5,126,181.

Georgia DOT urges travelers to call 511 for updated information about this or any other construction project on interstates and state routes. Georgia 511 is a free phone service that provides real-time traffic and travel information statewide, such as traffic conditions, incidents, lane closures, and delays due to inclement weather. Callers also can transfer to operators to request assistance or report incidents 24 hours a day, seven days a week. More information is available at www.511ga.org.

DriveAlert ArriveAlive campaign calls attention to an alarming increase in roadway fatalities across Georgia, many resulting from preventable crashes and distracted driving. **DriveAlert ArriveAlive** implores motorists to buckle up; stay off the phone and no texting; and drive alert. Visit www.dot.ga.gov/DS/SafetyOperation/DAAA.#ArriveAliveGA. For more information on the Department of Transportation, visit <http://www.dot.ga.gov>. You also may like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/GDOTNE) (<https://www.facebook.com/GDOTNE>) and follow us on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/GDOTNE) (<https://twitter.com/GDOTNE>).

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